

Legitimate Authority in Civil Government

1

In a broken world attempts will be made to manipulate the authority of civil government for sinful purposes.

• *“So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.” (Luke 20:20, ESV)*

2

Godly character is a powerful defense against manipulation.

• *“So they asked him, “Teacher, we know that you speak and teach rightly, and show no partiality, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful for us to give tribute to Caesar, or not?” But he perceived their craftiness, and said to them,” (Luke 20:21–23, ESV)*

3

Civil authority has a legitimate place in the world in the context of God's kingdom.

- *“Show me a denarius. Whose likeness and inscription does it have?” They said, “Caesar’s.” He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” (Luke 20:24–25, ESV)*
